

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 DAMASC 01715 151126Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07 IO-13
/076 W

-----151211Z 037920 /20

R 151114Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2202
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
DIA WASHDC
USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 1715

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, MOPS, SY, LE
SUBJECT: REPORTED SYRIAN TROOP MOVEMENTS ON MARCH 8 ANNIVERSARY

1. WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO CONFIRM REPORTS CIRCULATED LAST WEEK SUGGESTING THAT SYRIAN REGIME REDEPLOYED SOME OF ITS TROOPS STATIONED IN LEBANON TO FORESTALL COUP ATTEMPT IN DAMASCUS. ALL OF OUR REGULAR SOURCES HAVE DENIED RUMOR, WITH SHOEFI AT FOREIGN MINISTRY SUPPLYING MOST DETAILED VERSION. ACCORDING TO SHOEFI -- WHO BASED HIS ACCOUNT ON DISCUSSION WITH SYRIAN COLONEL SREIVING WITH ADF WHO RETURNED TO DAMASCUS ON LEAVE LAST WEEKEND -- RUMOR BEGAN IN BEIRUT WHEN SYRIAN MILITARY COMMAND ORDERED SHIFTS OF SOME OF ITS TROOPS TO NEW LOCATIONS AROUND BEIRUT AND TO FACILITATE REPLACEMENT OF SOME TROOPS. HE SAID THAT "RUMORMONGERS" IN BEIRUT PICKED UP NEWS OF SHIFTS AND BEGAN SPREADING TALES THAT ASAD REGIME IN TROUBLE. THESE STORIES THEN WORKED THEIR WAY BACK TO DAMASCUS.

2. COMMENT: SYRIAN OCCUPATION FORCES ARE NOT VERY
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 DAMASC 01715 151126Z

POPULAR AMONG MANY LEBANESE CIRCLES, AND THERE MAY WELL BE LEBANESE WHO BELIEVE THAT ONLY WAY THEY WILL EVER RID THEMSELVES OF SYRIAN TROOPS IS IF ASAD REGIME OVERTHROWN BY MILITARY COUP. BASED ON OUR CURRENT INFORMATION, NO SUCH ATTEMPT TOOK PLACE LAST WEEK.
MURPHY

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TROOP DEPLOYMENT, GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 15-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977DAMASC01715
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770088-0701
Format: TEL
From: DAMASCUS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770360/aaaacaeb.tel
Line Count: 61
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 0a3af8b7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3110601
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REPORTED SYRIAN TROOP MOVEMENTS ON MARCH 8 ANNIVERSARY
TAGS: PINS, MOPS, SY, LE
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/0a3af8b7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009